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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re RCE Application of:)
Jean-Philippe DESLYS *et al.*)
Application No.: 09/341,539) Group Art Unit: 1648
Filed: October 12, 1999) Examiner: Jeffrey S. Parkin, Ph.D.
For: **Method for screening substances with**)
therapeutic action in the treatment of)
transmissible subacute spongiform)
encephalopathies)

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark office
2011 South Clark Place
Customer Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT- NO FEE
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL FORM

1. Transmitted herewith is an Amendment in response to the Ex-parte Quayle Office Action dated January 28, 2004.
2. Extension of Time: The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) apply. Applicants do not believe an extension of time is required, as the period for response extends to March 29, 2004 by the next-business-day rule (March 28, 2004 falling on a Sunday). If, however, an extension of time is required, please consider this a Petition therefor.
3. Constructive Petition: **Except** for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a **constructive petition for extension of time** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a)(3).

Dated: **March 29, 2004**
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Respectfully submitted
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PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 45636-5027-US

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AMENDMENT & REPLY TO QUAYLE OFFICE ACTION
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.116

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 28, 2004, the period for response to which extends to March 29, 2004 by the next-business-day rule (March 28, 2004 falling on a Sunday), please amend the above-identified application as follows.